

Please find below, Utah State Parks and Recreation news for August 31:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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stateparks.utah.gov

- Representative Sought for Trails Advisory Council
- Temporary Closure of Starvation Boat Ramp
- Boaters Reminded to Wear Life Jackets
- Territorial Statehouse State Park Museum Hosts Festival
- Upcoming Utah State Parks Events

REPRESENTATIVE SOUGHT FOR TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Salt Lake City -- Utah State Parks and Recreation is currently seeking an at-large representative to serve on the Utah Recreational Trails Advisory Council and specifically represent the interests of non-motorized trail users. Applications will be accepted through Thursday, September 30.

The Recreational Trails Advisory Council reviews non-motorized trail project fiscal assistance requests and makes recommendations to state parks staff and the Utah State Parks Board. The 10-member advisory council consists of representatives from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Forest Service, National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, Utah League of Cities and Towns, Utah Association of Counties and members representing hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, Nordic skiers, and one member-at-large representing the interests of non-motorized trail users in general.

For more information or to apply for the Trails Advisory Council position, please contact Utah State Parks Trails Coordinator John Knudson at johnknudson@utah.gov or 801-538-7344.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF STARVATION BOAT RAMP

Duchesne – The main boat ramp at Starvation State Park will be closed September 20 to October 20 for construction. Boaters may launch at their own risk from Indian Bay. For more information or current park conditions visit statepark.utah.gov or call 435-738-2326.

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BOATERS REMINDED TO WEAR LIFE JACKETS

Salt Lake City -- Utah State Parks and Recreation Boating Rangers encourage everyone boating on our state's waters to wear a life jacket.

"Nine Utahns lost their lives in boating related accidents this year. Five would likely have survived had they been wearing a life jacket," stated Utah State Parks Boating Assistant Boating Program Manager Chris Haller. "While Utah law requires children under 13 to wear a properly sized life jacket when on a boat, it is a safe and smart practice for everyone to wear a life jacket."

All vessels on Utah's lakes, reservoirs, and rivers must carry a wearable and properly-sized U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket for each person on board. A U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket must be worn by those under age 13, anyone boating on a river, anyone on a personal watercraft (PWC) and anyone being towed behind a boat.

A vessel is any type of watercraft used as a means of transportation on water, which includes canoes, kayaks, float tubes, inner tubes, kick boats, rubber rafts and many inflatable toys.

Utah and national boating accident statistics over the past six years indicate that approximately 75 to 80 percent of those who drowned in a boating accident would likely have survived had they worn a life jacket.

For additional safe boating tips visit stateparks.utah.gov/boating or call 801-538-BOAT. Wear it Utah!

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TERRITORIAL STATEHOUSE STATE PARK MUSEUM HOSTS FESTIVAL

Fillmore – Experience the Old Capital Arts and Living History Festival at Territorial Statehouse State Park Museum in Fillmore Friday, September 10 and Saturday, September 11 from 10 a.m. until dark. Enjoy living history demonstrations, food, music, craft booths and many activities for all ages.

This year, visitors can enjoy a rare opportunity to view artwork by artist Donald Beaugard. Born in Fillmore, Utah in 1884, Beaugard studied art in France, and was known for his rich colored paintings. Both private and museum-owned collections made this exhibit possible. On Friday, September 10 and 5 p.m., Director of Springville Art Museum Vern Swanson gives an hour-long presentation on Beaugard and his art.

For more information, please call 435-743-5316.

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UPCOMING UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS

September 29 Escalante Petrified Forest State Park - Escalante
Nature Hike - Nature's Grocery Store: Join the park naturalist on a guided hike through the pinyon-juniper woodlands. Discover how people and wildlife have depended on this important plant community for survival. Meet at the visitor center at 10 a.m. 435-826-4466

September 30 Escalante Petrified Forest State Park - Escalante
Geology Hike: Travel back in time 200 million years! Explore the Escalante region's amazing geology on a guided one-mile hike. Meet at the visitor center at 10 a.m. 435-826-4466

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